

MARION MESSENGER

October 8, 2009

WEEK-AT-GLANCE

Friday, October 9, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All School Mass – Grade 4 STUDENTS EAT IN CLASSROOMS 4th Grade Field Trip – Recycling Plant Consignment Sale 4-8 PM
Saturday, October 10, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JV Volleyball Tournament @ St. Paul – Ann Arbor 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM Varsity Volleyball Tournament @ St. Paul – Ann Arbor 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM Consignment Sale 8 AM-3 PM Road Rally 6:00 PM
Monday, October 12, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morning Prayer – Grade 4
Tuesday, October 13, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fr. Gabriel Richard High School Visit – Grade 8 9:00 AM Pinckney High School Visit – Grade 8 9:30 AM Varsity Volleyball @ Home West Highland 5:00 PM
Wednesday, October 14, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary Mass – Grade 5 Mercy High School Visit – Grade 8 8:45 AM Catholic Central High School Visit – Grade 8 8:45 AM PTC Meeting 7:00 PM
Thursday, October 15, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> J.V. Varsity Volleyball @ Livingston Christian 4:30 PM
Friday, October 16, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All School Mass – Grade 6 Progress Reports Home

PRINCIPAL POINTS:

Thank You Mrs. Hall for heading the Walkathon to benefit Gleaner's Food Bank and our Technology fund. Together we earned \$473.00 for Gleaners and \$2681.87 for Technology for a grand total of \$3154.87! Awesome job to all our walkers and sponsors!

We had our fundraiser yesterday at Riverside Pizza. As of this printing we do not know the outcome of all of our efforts, but I really appreciate all who were able to support our efforts to raise money for new computers for our school. We will be having a "Pizza Night" each month at

Riverside Pizza to continue to raise money for computers. If you were not able to order pizza or other items this time perhaps you can next month. Dates will be coming soon so you can mark you calendars.

The Seventh and Eighth grades will be taking parts of the MEAP test for the rest of October. If you have a child in one of these grades, please help them to get plenty of rest and a good breakfast each day so they can do their best on these very important tests.

Articles for the messenger are due by the end of the day on Tuesday.

A personal thank you to all of you for making my transition from first grade teacher to principal as smooth as possible. I really appreciate all of the support from both parents and children. Everyone has been very supportive and it is has been a real blessing to me. I have been very humbled by all of the support. Thank You!

Have a great week,

Veronica Kinsey

Calling all Beach Bums...

Auction volunteers: Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. for the auction kick-off party. We would love to see everyone who has signed up for a volunteer position of any kind, as well as those who are still looking for a way to help!

This year's school theme is "A Servant's Heart," and we already have so many people to thank! This week we want to particularly thank Mary Wroten for all of her hard work in designing our signs!

We also want to announce an exciting incentive for the first class to have each family turn in an auction item valued at \$75 or a monetary donation of \$50. We hope to offer that class dress-down passes, an extra recess, a pizza party ... just an all around fun day!!

Donation support can come in the form of an item donation, or in terms of helping us make connections with sport or celebrity figures. Additional ideas include...

- Autographed sports memorabilia
- Backstage passes
- Sports suites or tickets
- Airline miles
- Timeshares
- Dog breeder
- Patio furniture
- Baby items
- Gift certificates for rounds of golf, restaurants, car washes, movies, etc.

You'd be surprised at how much success we have in just having people ask businesses they regularly support (for haircuts, oil changes, etc.) for gift certificates or other items!

If you would like to volunteer (some major needs are listed below; others can be found in the school gathering space), please contact Auction Co-Chair Holly Oakes at (734) 878-5433 or Kim Plait at (810) 923-8901. Also, one very fun way to support the Beach Bash is by attending it! The Beach Bash is set for Saturday, April 17. See you there!

Web Design/Maintenance: Must have computer knowledge. Will be in charge of designing maintaining the auction website through the school and parish's websites.

Student Ads: responsible for selling and obtaining ads from parents, relatives or friends to St. Mary's students to be added to the program. Computer knowledge would be helpful.

Ad and Banner Sponsor Procurement: Outgoing person needed to obtain donors and sponsors for banners in the gymnasium, ads in the program and a raise the paddle sponsor.

Procurement: *If everyone were to procure a few items the load would be lighter!* We need a team to solicit donations and advertisers, communicate and follow-up with businesses and sponsors, assist with banner construction and hanging, assist in physically collecting items from donors and purchasing fill-in items as advised by auction chair(s).

Auction Program: Works with the auction chair(s) to create the auction program distributed the evening of the event. Comfort working on the computer is a must and graphic design is a plus. Will scan ads and design simple ads from logo, create an advertiser index and put together the layout for printing. May work with the printer to set-up scheduling and pricing. The main body of the program will be complete a few weeks before the auction but there will be addendum work the week prior. A large portion of this position can be worked on at home.

THE CLASSROOM WINDOW

FIFTH GRADE NEWS:

The fifth graders have been working hard to develop our independent learning skills! We are having weekly conferences, using our critical thinking skills to choose work that shows our strengths as well as work that shows an area we need to grow. All of this preparation for our student-led conferences is a lot of work! We recently completed our science chapter on cells and body systems and will now be focusing our study on the classification of living things. We are working on our family life component of our religion curriculum, so discuss with your child these important values. Math finds us preparing to wrap up our study of writing algebraic expressions to solve problems, with our focus shifting to data and graphing next week. We are continuing our learning about the many components to our study of social studies, and will soon be moving into a study of the first civilizations in our country. In English, after spending much time and energy on learning the writing process, we have almost finished our unit on the sentence, including types of sentences and identifying subjects and predicates. We will continue our writing focus next in the area of voice, and will move our grammar lessons to nouns.

Last, but certainly not least, we have spent much time in reading analyzing the many ways authors organize their writing. This has helped us identify strategies to help us understand the text, especially informational text. We are working on transferring those strategies to our own informational reading. Enjoy the beauty of fall!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Girls & Boys Basketball Night:

All 4th-8th grade boys and girls invited to hone their basketball skills on the following dates:
October 9 & October 23 from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM.

The goal is to let the kids have fun while practicing basketball basics like free throws, defense, dribbling, passing, rebounding all through fun exercises.

Parent volunteers needed to help with "crowd control" and drill leadership. If you are available to help out, please contact Amy Salowitz at rwsalowitz@yahoo.com

Road Rally & AfterParty - 2009 Fall Social:

What a night it will be! Have you registered? Mrs. Abbott's car is revved up to go, are you? As of this week we have 6 teams in the running and many more coming to the AfterParty. If you signed up to bring a non-perishable item – food, drink, cash – feel free to bring these items to the school office at your earliest convenience. Label ROAD RALLY. Please double check the sign-up list to see what you graciously donated.

Thanks to the Oakes and Liddy families for their \$10 cash donations and to Heather Orlowski for the donation of Diet Coke 2-liters.

Go Grease Lightning.....you're burning up the quarter mile.....grease lightning, go grease lightning!!

Clothing Exchange Update:

Next weekend St Mary School will host the Second Annual Consignment Sale/Fundraiser!

**Sale hours: Friday October 9th 2 - 4pm (volunteer presale), 4 - 8pm
Saturday October 10th 8am - 3pm, Half price sale 12 - 3pm**

We have organized and advertised. Please watch for our ads in local newspapers, local radio, Craig's list, church bulletins, street signs, local business' billboards and flyers at local business', schools and at the homecoming parade. So far, we have close to 35 consignors!! Our best free advertisement is YOU! Please spread the word to relatives, friends and neighbors! It's not too late! Get involved! Get your consignor number and make a few extra \$\$, while fundraising for the school OR volunteer to help the event! Visit the Consignment Sale/Fundraiser web page on the school web site for more details.

Please take a moment to look at the list of help needed below to consider what you can do to support this fundraiser. Email consignment@stmarypinckney.org if you can help.

Thursday October 8th: receiving items , organizing items, hall monitors

Friday October 9th: organizing items, hall monitors, tag table(removing 3x5 card), sales/floor worker

Saturday October 10th: tag table, sales/floor worker, pull items for consignor pick up, pull items for donation, rack removal/load, clean up

Your support is needed and appreciated!

Free Children's Vision Screening at Howell Library:

The Howell Library is pleased to partner with the Howell Area Lions Club to offer "Project Kidsight," a program that provides free vision screenings for children. The program will be held at the Howell Carnegie District Library on **Saturday, October 17, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** The screenings are intended for children aged one to five. "Project Kidsight" has grown from the effort to prevent blindness and has been active in Michigan for ten years. Children's Hospital of Michigan, Kellogg Eye Institute, Michigan Ophthalmological Society, the Michigan Department of Community Health, and others endorse it. Approximately 1 in 20 children aged one to five has an eye problem that can permanently affect vision if left untreated. "Project Kidsight" screening detects seven diseases and qualifies as the mandatory vision screening required by the state of Michigan prior to entering kindergarten. Pre-registration is required by calling the 517-546-0720 ext. 107 or by stopping by the youth services desk.

Car Seat Check:

St. Mary will be hosting a CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECK on Saturday, October 24th from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Have questions – contact Mott Buckle Up! @ 734-763-2251.

Dress Down Day:

The seventh grade will sponsor a dress-down day on Tuesday, October 27, to benefit their BaySail class trip in May. To participate, students should bring \$1 in an envelope, clearly marked with "Dress-Down Day" **and the student's name and grade.** Thank you for your support!

CROP till you DROP!!

It's that time again ... Get caught up on your pages while helping the school auction team raise some much-needed funds. ALL crafters welcome ... scrappers, stampers, sewing, card making, knitting, etc. \$10 admission includes pizza lunch, lemonade, coffee and one door prize raffle ticket. Other raffles also available.

Bring all your friends: Saturday Nov. 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the St. Mary Multi-Purpose Room.

Please RSVP to Pam McGlade at 734-954-0733 or onthesth@charter.net.

Advice About Novel A (H1N1) Virus in Schools:

According to several county health departments, the Novel A (H1N1) influenza (previously referred to as swine flu) is a new form of flu which began infecting people in April. It is expected to infect many this school year. Due to the rapid onslaught of this flu, no one is certain how serious it may be. It appears that infants, children and young adults have the least natural immunity and will need to follow the precautions most closely. Below are questions and answers about the flu and school.

Q. How does the H1N1 flu compare to regular (seasonal) flu strains?

- So far, it doesn't seem any more deadly than seasonal flu, which kills 36,000 Americans a year and hospitalizes 200,000. But H1N1 does sicken the young much more frequently than the old, and it spreads very easily, especially in crowded schools. A University of Washington study found the typical sick school student infects two or three classmates, so KEEP SICK KIDS AT HOME.
- You can be contagious up to 24 hours before you show symptoms; this is one reason flu spreads so easily.

Q. How long should sick students stay out of school?

- For 24 hours after the fever breaks naturally, and not due to fever-reducing medicine. Never give a child aspirin, only non-aspirin fever reducers.
- Local health departments and the CDC are recommending, as is the diocese, that schools should not close because people have flu-like symptoms. Last spring's school closings did not prevent the spread of the virus. Instead of closing schools, students and staff with flu-like symptoms will be sent home from school to avoid infecting others. Administrators do have the option to close schools if the number of absences dictates it.

Q. If I get sick, will I be quarantined and tested to see if I have H1N1 flu?

- Not necessarily. People with flu-like symptoms do not need to be tested. H1N1 will become common and test results won't change how patients are treated.

Q. Will anti-viral medication, like Tamiflu, help lessen the symptoms of H1N1?

- Most people with flu-like symptoms will not receive anti-viral medications. This is to reduce the likelihood of H1N1 becoming resistant to anti-virals. However, that recommendation should be made by your physician or health-care provider. Please call your doctor if you are experiencing flu-like symptoms. People who have a medical condition that makes them likely to develop complications from H1N1 will probably receive anti-virals if they have flu symptoms or if they are exposed to someone with flu symptoms.

Q. Is hand using hand sanitizer too often a concern?

- Hand sanitizer should be used regularly. It is normally not any more drying to skin than soap.

Q. What precautions are the schools taking?

- The diocesan schools have installed a three-step process to try to prevent the spread of H1N1:

1. Isolation: If a student complains of flu-like symptoms while at school, the student will be removed from the classroom and requested to wear a mask until a parent picks him/her up. This is to contain the virus from spreading to others.

2. Communication: A series of communications to students, parents and school employees detailing the latest information about prevention will be available on a regular basis. This includes flyers, posters, E-mails, and instruction.

3. Supplies: Each school should have an adequate supply of tissues, hand sanitizers, disinfectants and masks.

Q. What are the signs and symptoms of H1N1?

• The symptoms are similar to seasonal flu – fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body and headaches, chills and fatigue. Many people have also reported vomiting and diarrhea.

Q. Are there resources I can go to for more information?

The following are health-related data-tracking Web sites on the H1N1 virus.

• www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/flugallery/2009-10/pdf/h1n1_take_3.pdf

• Novel h1n1 Flu (Swine Flu): Taking Care of a Sick Person in Your Home

www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidancehomecare.htm

• Center for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov/flu and www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu

• Michigan Department of Community Health www.michigan.gov/flu

• Department of Health and Human Services www.flu.gov

• Childhood Influenza Coalition www.preventchildhoodinfluenza.org

• Families Fighting Flu www.familiesfightingflu.org

• www.flu.gov/professional/community/cfbguidance.html.



Avoid the Flu

Take Care of You

Wash your

hands often with

soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer

Don't share personal items

(drinks, food, unwashed utensils).

Cover your coughs and sneezes with tissue or cough into your elbow, sleeve or arm if tissue is unavailable.

Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth